

Trauma Medical Review Committee 2017

TRAUMA MEDICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE (TMRC)

MEETING MINUTES – (APPROVED)

October 18, 2017

Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy, Classroom 2, Administration Building

98 Smokey Bear Boulevard

Concord, NH 03301

Members Present:

Reto Baertschiger, MD; H. Scott Bjerke, MD; Lukas Kolm, MD; Kathy Bizarro-Thunberg, FACHE; Kenneth Call, MD; Mark Hastings, RN; Tony Maggio, EMT; Eric Martin, MD; Rick Murphy, MD; Ryan Pouliot, MD; Scott Schuler, NRP; Jonathan Snow, NRP; Richard Tomolonis, MD; Ryan Hickey, NRP; Joey Scollan, MD **(15)**

Members on Conference Phone:

None

Members Absent: Sharon Breidt, Lisa Patterson, MD; Ryan Ridley, and Jennifer Weymouth **(4)**

Member Excused: Peter Hedberg, MD (deployed on July 7th and home in mid to late October)

Bureau Staff:

Director Deborah A. Pendergast; Captain Vicki Blanchard; Captain Chip Cooper; Captain Chris Rousseau; Gerard Christian; Joanne Lahaie; Denice McAdoo **(7)**

Guests:

Lynn Chabot, Craig Clough, Katie Hartford, Hillary Hawkins, Mary Reidy, Jennifer Roach, Justin Romanello, Neil Moore, Adam Rembisz,

NOTE: "Action items" are in bold red.

I. Call to Order

Item 1. The meeting was called to order at 9:30AM, and introductions were made.

Item 2. **Motion made and seconded (Call/Schuler)** – to approve the minutes from the TMRC meeting on August 16, 2017; **passed unanimously.**

Prior to the reports from the sub-committees, Chair Murphy advised the group that the state's trauma plan needs to be updated. He asked for volunteers to form a workgroup. There was a discussion regarding sub-committee/workgroup rules. There needs to be clarification of those rules.

II. Sub-Committee and Member Reports

Item 1. Hospital Designation sub-committee - Members of the sub-committee returned to Catholic Medical Center for a focused site review. Dr. Kolm reports that the review took place on August 17th and that growth was identified. Overall, the committee was very satisfied with the results of the review.

Motion made and seconded (Kolm/Martin) – to grant Catholic Medical Center designation as an **Adult Level III and Pediatric Level IV Trauma Center** to expire August 30, 2019, three years from the original site visit. **Passed unanimously.** Congratulations to CMC!

The sub-committee will revise the hospital designation check list over the coming months and will present a copy to the full committee when it is complete.

The committee would like to share trauma policies/plans on a secure site to assist centers with performance improvement. Any center that wishes to share their policies/plans can email them to Vicki Blanchard.

Item 2. Process Improvement sub-committee – Dr. Martin asked Gerard Christian to speak about the new Trauma Registry Data Dictionary

(Taken out of order, Bureau Report Item I) Gerard distributed the newly created 2018 Data Dictionary for the New Hampshire Trauma Registry (NHTR). He began working on the document when he first started in July. The purpose of the document is to define the fields that will be collected from all participating hospitals beginning in 2018. The document contains the full listing of these 160+ elements and full reference sections. He presented it to the TMRC for their comment and suggested revisions. A final draft with any revisions will be presented at the December meeting. We will need a vote for its approval in December to put it in place for 01/01/2018.

Item 3. Education sub-committee – Will be meeting directly after this meeting. There were not enough people registered to hold the TOPIC class at this year's Trauma Conference. 25 people were required and only 12 were registered. The sub-committee would still like to offer some pre-conference sessions for those who are interested. At the next TMRC meeting we will discuss the location for next year's Trauma Conference. Maybe rotating it around the state is a good idea. If you have not registered, please do so. If there is a barrier preventing your attendance, please share that.

Item 4. Pre-Hospital sub-committee – The sub-committee met prior to this morning's meeting. The sub-committee was pleased to report that the projects they have been working on are complete and will be released as a part of the new protocol rollout. One of the projects is an interactive trauma training module that covers EMS trauma triage. The other project is a hospital capabilities matrix which was created through collaboration between this sub-committee and the New Hampshire Hospital Association. The plan is to keep this matrix updated and send out the newest version as many as four times per year.

The full committee requested to view the interactive materials. Capt. Rousseau presented a draft of the interactive trauma education. There was lengthy discussion; minor revisions were suggested but the full committee's consensus was that these materials were well done.

Item 5. Coordinating Board report

Scott Schuler gave the report from CB meeting held on September 21. There are significant issues getting people licensed from out of state. We went from having a great process to being at 4-6 weeks from the point that a job offer is made to affiliate someone with your organization and put them in the field. This is an ongoing discussion.

The Coordinating Board also discussed recent ambulance crashes due to provider fatigue that have been covered in national news. The Coordinating Board is interested in discussion fatigue and hours worked by EMS providers in the state.

- Link to CB meeting minutes:

<https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/boards/coordinating/cbminutes.html>

Item 7. Medical Control Board report

Kenneth Call gave the report. Protocol rollouts are the main topic. Hopefully, they will be within the next 30 days. Vicki mentioned the E-Learning group lost 2 people and have recently hired one person. Gerard has also been helping on the rollouts.

- The MCB met on September 21, 2017.

- Link to MCB minutes:

<https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/boards/medicalcontrol/mbminutes.html>

Item 8. Injury Prevention report

November 8th is a carbon monoxide summit in Lebanon. November 17th a suicide prevention conference is at the Grappone Center. A few years ago, NH Highway Safety Agency provided helmets for local

communities through the police departments. They stopped doing that 2-3 years ago because they were not allowed to by NHTSA. They have been referred to us and now we have a funding source to make us able to provide helmets. Copies of the RFP will be passed around.

Safe Kids 500 has changed its name to the Dale Jr. Foundation Safe Kids 301. Dale Jr. is retiring because he has had a number of head injuries. There was a ceremony in September at the racetrack.

Grants are being worked on. Data is also being collected, specifically looking at non-accidental trauma for kids under the age of 1. If anyone hears of any legislation that affects injury prevention in any way, we would love to hear about it. Please pass any information along and we will have the injury prevention advisory council take a look at it.

Item 8. Rehabilitation Report

There seem to be more injuries in the EMS field. One in four suffers a career ending injury within the first four years of employment. Sprains/strains injuries are at a very high rate, when compared with private industry. Use of the proper equipment is essential. There is a need for better physical fitness. The older, wiser EMS personnel seem to not be injured as much. Perhaps because they have learned how to lift properly, etc. Another thing to consider is diet. Certainly training and physical fitness plays a roll. Utilizing rehab resources will also help.

Item 9. Medical Examiner Report

Jon Snow reports that the Chief Medical Examiner has retired. The Deputy CME was promoted to Chief. This leaves 2 pathologists positions open. If anyone knows of someone who might be interested, please let them know.

III. Bureau Report

Item 1. New Hampshire Trauma Registry Data Dictionary (Moved to Process Improvement sub-committee)

Item 2. Division Items of Interest – Town Hall meetings are on-going around the state with Chief Nick Mercuri. They are going well and we are getting a lot of feedback and information. Attendees are pleased that the meetings are taking place.

They are working on the Strategic Plan and had 3 planning sessions. Looking at January 1st to publish the full Strategic Plan. Once it is complete copies will be distributed.

Four pieces of legislation are being looked at:

REPLICA is being presented by Sue Prentiss. Senator Reagan is going to sponsor that bill in the legislature.

We have a mechanism in place to charge for EMS licenses and ambulance inspections. We currently do not charge, but if and when we do charge for that the money goes into the general fund. That really does not help our Division in any way. We are going to change the wording so that any of those fees would go into our Fire & EMS fund.

When we receive a request to give out data, by RSA we have to go back to DHHS and give them the information (such as: who is requesting; what they are looking for) and get permission to give out the data. This no doubt stems from the days when EMS fell under DHHS, and it really makes no sense to have to do this. We are working to change that legislation.

We have received a grant (\$3.2 million) from SAMHSA . This is a 4 year grant and will enable us to bring 2 full time/temporary positions to EMS. It will also be used to supply Narcan, to educate communities and people affected by the crisis. We are still working with the Business Office on the details.

Working to make EMS license background checks more streamlined. There is a 21 day turnaround. This is still a lengthy timeframe, but we are working with NHSP on this. Part of the procedure is that once the

application is received by NHSP, they then have to work with the FBI. We actually have a 24 – 36 hour turnaround from when we receive the license application. The delay is not with us. We are working to shorten the 21 day turnaround.

Part of the hold up with the protocols is all the other training programs the e-learning group has been involved in. Several of these programs have now been completed and the protocols are the number one priority right now.

IV. Old Business

Scott Schuler's Term as Representative of TMRC on the Coordinating Board is expiring. **Motion made/seconded ()** to nominate Scott Schuler for this position. **Passed unanimously.**

V. New Business

It was mentioned that mental health needs to be included in the trauma system plan. Maybe it should be talked about at future meetings. It needs to be looked at for providers as well as patients.

VI. Public Comment

At the conclusion of this meeting committee chairs please meet briefly with Vicki to set up a committee/work group for working on the trauma plan.

VII. Next Meeting and Adjournment – Wednesday, December 20th

Motion made/seconded (Schuler/Snow) – to adjourn the TMRC meeting at 11:45AM; **Passed unanimously.**